

United States Marshals Service



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONTACT: Public Affairs
(503)326-2209**

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U.S. Marshals Arrest Gresham Fugitive in California

Portland, OR - On April 4th, 2005, at approximately 3:30 P.M., Paul Lawrence Cochell Jr. was arrested in Oroville, California by Deputy U.S. Marshals acting on information provided by the Oregon U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force. Cochell was found living in a pickup truck on rural property. Cochell is pending extradition and will be returned to answer criminal charges in Multnomah County Circuit court for Attempted Murder and Assault I on his girlfriend.

On November 21, 2004, Cochell became a fugitive after allegedly stabbing his girlfriend April L. Conner multiple times with a kitchen knife during a domestic argument. On December 15, 2004, Paul Lawrence Cochell was indicted by a Multnomah County Grand Jury for Attempted Murder and Assault in the First Degree. Cochell's disappearance spurred a series of newspaper stories starting in November 2004. Each story asked for the public's help with any information that could lead Gresham Police to capturing Cochell who was described as a white male, 6 ' tall, 240 lbs., brown hair, with full beard, and green eyes. The Gresham-East County Major Crimes Team (MCT) led the investigation and warned citizens that Cochell was considered Armed and Dangerous.

The Oregon U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Force objective is to seek out and arrest violent, potentially high risk, or drug offense fugitives. The Task Force is made up of members of the U.S. Marshals Service, the Portland Police Bureau, and the Oregon National Guard. Nationally, the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Task Forces arrest more than 43,000 state and local fugitives through cooperative task forces like the one here in Oregon.